

FISCAL NOTE

HB 1411 - SB 1959

March 18, 2005

SUMMARY OF BILL: Enacts the *T-Span Act of 2005* which mandates that all municipalities require cable companies with 13 or more usable activated channels provide coverage of state government proceedings on at least one cable channel or network as a requisite for issuing a franchise license. Provides for negotiating any initial franchise agreement and for renewing any existing franchise license. Requires that any municipality operating a cable system comply with the programming requirements in this bill.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

Increase Local Govt. Expenditures - Exceeds \$100,000*

Assumptions:

- Local governments operating a cable system would experience an increase in expenditures to make a channel available for state government proceedings. This increase in expenditures is estimated to be not significant.
- This bill does not specify who would be responsible for producing the state government proceedings for broadcast. To the extent the cable systems are responsible, the cost to local governments is estimated to be significant.

*Article II, Section 24 of the Tennessee Constitution provides that: *no law of general application shall impose increased expenditure requirements on cities or counties unless the General Assembly shall provide that the state share in the cost.*

CERTIFICATION:

This is to duly certify that the information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.



James W. White, Executive Director

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